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The relief of the Salt Lake Symphony orchestra is progressing, but it is hoped that the rate of progress may be accelerated.

The advance guard of the tourist rush has appeared. Long may it last, any many may they be who compose it, and it successive waves.

We have now smooth, well-paved streets; just the thing for automobiles, but often perilous to horses. So, why not equip the fire department with autos throughout?

Our own Teddy has raised his hand with an explanation, all that we want of Mexico is "order, justice, and independence." Which is both mixed and indefinite, but is as good an explanation as any that has been offered.

Smoot thinks that Canadian reciprocity wouldn't hurt Utah, which is exactly what The Tribune has been saying all along. He also believes that Congress will ratify that agreement; and also announces that he will oppose it. Here's a jumble!

The Chinamen are not cutting off their queues to any great extent, as it was expected that they would do. The habit of conservatism is too strong; and besides, a plea is made in behalf of the queues on the basis of cleanliness and sanitary value.

And now comes President Diaz with the statement that the insurrection is not serious; that the insurgents are merely bands of brigands. Probably that has been the trouble all the time; that Diaz has refused to recognize the seriousness of the uprising.

The weather bureau is making arrangements to help fruit-raisers fight off the frost. It is desirable to have co-operation among the defenders, and the bureau is prepared to show how the work can best be done. It will be an immense service to Utah as well.

It appears that the Mexican Government is urging the insurgents to cease their revolt and join in repelling the expected intervention of the United States. But then what? And suppose the United States does not intervene? Where would the insurgents be then?

Utah Day at the Los Angeles Exposition is changed from March 24th to March 27th. At this date Utah will be represented in force in the great and swiftly growing southern California city. The Utah Legislature's continued session is responsible for the three days' postponement.

The Hungarians in this country are credited with sending \$37,000,000 to their former homes in Hungary, during the past year of 1910. That's doing pretty well for one nationality, and indicates that the loss of money by this country on similar accounts must be far heavier than is commonly supposed.

Woodrow Wilson is credited with saying that "The trouble with our laws and institutions is that we can't button 'em across the belly without splitting 'em down the back." Well, we don't know; they are being "stretched" pretty fierce all the time; but then, why button them at all? Let liberty be unconfined.

The Governor appears to have the whip hand in the matter of appointments. The Senate may refuse to confirm as much as it pleases; but the Governor can appoint the rejected ones just the same, after the Senate adjourns, as he did two years ago. Of course, that sort of work is in contempt of the constitution; but then as the Hon. Tim Campbell says, "What's the constitution between friends?" And besides what particular regard is the Legislature paying to the State constitution, anyway?

And now we are to be saved politically by the commission plan of city government. And it isn't free, like the other salvation; for we must accept it whether we want it or not; and this at the mandate of persons who for the most part will not be affected by what they decree for others. Very few of the legislators who impose this rule upon the cities have either property or personal interests in those cities; and yet they dictate this form of

government for them, and force it on them without the least regard to their wishes. It is a form of dictatorship that is republican only in name.

TAFT AS PEACEMAKER.

The news that comes from London indicating a willing welcome on the part of the British Ministry to the proposal of a peace programme from President Taft, that would involve a general disarmament, is sensational news indeed. There are difficulties in the way, as some of the newspapers and statesmen take the pains to point out; but, on the other hand, it is shown that these difficulties are not necessarily insurmountable, and it is certainly an epoch in the world's history, when a British Minister, occupying the position of Sir Edward Grey, will practically invite the President of the United States to submit a world's disarmament proposition, accompanying this with the statement that Great Britain would welcome it.

This is making the United States arbiter of the world's peace, with a vengeance. The union of this country with Great Britain in a peace programme would give such a start to it that other nations would pause before putting any obstructions in the way. If the project should take actual form, it is altogether likely that France would join without much demur. Italy would probably do the same. Russia would object, Germany would hold back, and Austria would not move without Germany.

But certainly the cause of peace and disarmament is decidedly looking up with this momentous declaration from Earl Grey; and if the United States should take the lead among the nations in this magnificent movement, and if success should come of it, then to this country would belong most emphatically the blessings which the Beatitudes pronounce upon the peacemaker. It is no wonder that the suggestion of Earl Grey is welcomed in many quarters as the most epochal utterance that has been made among civilized men for centuries. And now if President Taft can formulate the practical plan, he will be known as the great peacemaker of all time.

REAPPORTIONMENT KILLED.

The vote in the Senate on Tuesday, whereby the apportionment of the State into Senate and Representative districts, was defeated, probably ends the matter for the present session of the legislature. But, in refusing to reapportion the State, the Legislature and every member of it has distinctly violated his oath to support the constitution, which provides (article 9, section 2) that "at the session next following an enumeration made by the authority of the United States" the legislature "shall revise and adjust the apportionment for Senators and Representatives on the basis of such enumeration, according to ratios to be fixed by law." That is a direct, mandatory provision of the constitution. The legislature "shall" do this. But the present legislature refuses to do it. It is therefore in contempt of the constitution, and it is defrauding the people of this State of their just representation according to numbers, in the legislature of this State.

The result is such a gross abuse of legislative discretion and power, that the Governor would be fully justified in calling the legislature together, either now or some time prior to the next legislative election, for the express purpose of making this apportionment, which the constitution commands.

The legislature is now elected on a plan of apportionment based on the U. S. census of 1890, twenty-one years ago. The fact that the legislature has, in the meantime, violated the obligations of the members under the constitution heretofore, is not the least excuse for such violation now. On the contrary it makes the present violation all the more flagrant, unjust, and oppressive. For, the changes and increases in population in various parts of the State make the present apportionment in effect a fraud on the people, a denial of the just rights of representation by the people.

REMARKABLE DIVORCE CASE.

An astonishing case is reported in a dispatch from Kansas City. A Mrs. Gertrude Rutledge, living in Los Angeles, heard that her former husband, William Rutledge, was lying at the point of death in Kansas City. She hurried to get to him before he died, but failed; he died in the morning of the day on which she arrived. Being asked why she came all that way to see her former husband, from whom she had been divorced, she explained that he was the father of her five children. That was enough, surely, to account for the journey; but the really astonishing thing was developed when she continued: "I do not know why we were divorced, neither did Mr. Rutledge." That seems to be beyond all belief. That a husband and wife could be divorced and neither know why, and the regard for the husband remaining in the heart of the wife for years, so that she hastened to his bedside when she heard he was critically ill, and still she would not know why she was divorced from him, is one of the marvels of modern social life.

We are not of the rigid sort in the matter of divorce, but we believe that far more divorces are granted than there should be need of granting; that many couples who think they cannot get along together could do so, if they were made to try. On the other hand we believe that there are cases where it amounts practically to a crime to force conjugal relations that are not only loathsome individually and personally, but that are harmful to the human race itself. But here is

a case where there appeared to be no reason whatever for the divorce, not even a reason that the husband and wife themselves could recognize. It is the most appalling case of vicious divorce practice that we have ever heard of, and we hope that it is unique among all the divorces of this easy divorce country.

LIQUOR BILL FORCED.

The Federal bunch liquor bill has been passed by both branches of the Utah Legislature, and doubtless the Governor will promptly sign it. That measure is one of the most indefensible ever passed by a State legislature in many of its features. The worst of all is the placing of the administration of the saloon business in the hands of the courts, thus mingling judicial and executive functions in a way quite repugnant to the constitution. Two main points must strike the public forcibly in connection with the passage of this bill.

First, the evident reluctance of the members of the lower House of the legislature to vote for the bill in its changed form. One after another the members rose in their places, denounced the changes made in the bill, and yet voted for it. The open statement was made also on the floor of the House, that the bill was being passed, not because the members wanted to vote for it—quite the contrary; the majority of the House was clearly against the bill in its final form; for a member said, without being contradicted, that the bill was being put through by forces outside of the membership of the legislature, meaning the Federal bunch. No one criticized this shocking statement; no one objected to it no one denied it; it was the plain, obvious truth. The measure is not such a measure as the House wanted to pass, because the House had distinctly smothered that sort of thing in a bill originally presented to it. So that the bill is not in fact an act of the legislature, but is forced through by a power which the House was not able to resist.

Second, the bill, while pretending to take the saloons out of politics by handing over their administration to the courts, must necessarily have precisely the opposite effect. It will work in Utah exactly as Mr. Reese, rector of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, shows that it works in Pennsylvania. The judges are elected there as they will come to be elected here, through the saloon influence, and on the basis of whether they would be satisfactory to the saloon element or not. The Tribune from the first has pointed this out as the inevitable result of making the courts administrators of the saloon business. It will, of course, be necessary for the liquor element to see that the judges will "treat them right" in the granting of licenses for saloons; and a judge who will not meet the liquor interests in this can depend upon facing the hostile saloon vote. Inasmuch as the judges are elected on partisan tickets, both the Republican party and the Democratic party will take pains to nominate judges who will be "satisfactory" to the proprietors and managers of saloons. It is a deplorable forecast, but it is precisely what Mr. Reese says is the fact in Pennsylvania, and it is a perfectly evident case that the same thing will be true in Utah.

The Federal bunch brought the saloon permanently into politics in the campaign of 1908; and that bunch seems determined to push the saloons further and further into politics, so that the liquor element will be an adjunct and supporter of the Republican party all the time, or be at its mercy if it refuses political "sugar" and co-operation.

ON THE MEXICAN BORDER.

The concentration of United States troops on the Mexican border has had an effect contrary to what was expected, of making the insurgents far more active and daring than before, whereas it was expected to paralyze them. Either this, or the news censorship is relaxed and we are able to find out more about what the insurgents are doing. Which is the correct view it might be difficult to determine.

At any rate, it seems clear that the United States is not going to allow American citizens to be butchered under pretense of court-martial trials. Demand has been made for the surrender of Americans caught by the Mexican authorities under doubtful circumstances, and it is altogether likely that our government will see that butcheries, especially of Americans, are not carried out to any great extent. If necessary, this country can recognize a status of civil war in Mexico, and demand humane treatment for prisoners captured.

It appears that indirect advances are being made to the insurgents on two grounds. First, concessions by the Mexican government of at least some of the things demanded by the insurgents; and second, an appeal to their Mexican pride to join with the government's forces in repelling the threatened intervention by the United States. This latter, of course, would mean simply the surrender of the insurgents, and their fate would be determined later by the Mexican government when it felt secure. One thing is certain, however, as to the latter alternative, and that is that whatever Americans are now engaged in helping the insurgents would never help them in any movement against the United States forces.

It is a complicated situation, darkened by the refusal of the Government to state what its plans are and under what incitement it massed its troops along the Mexican border. It appears,

however, to be a clear case, that a good many more troops than the division first called into service for these maneuvers, will be necessary to guard that border. Already the remainder of the available cavalry forces of the country is called for, and it is practically certain that the second division of the army which was first announced as under orders to proceed to the border, and then those orders countermanded, will have to be drawn upon for service. For the Mexican border is so long, so difficult to guard, that it is quite impossible for one division of twenty thousand men even suppose all were of feeble and present for duty, completely and effectively to patrol.

REORGANIZING THE ARMY.

The army authorities, having faced the difficulties of mobilization, and taking to heart the fact that in the fragmentary, scattered condition of our military forces neither officers nor men can have the benefit of practice in military maneuvers on a large scale, have concluded to reorganize our military system. The plan under consideration, as announced from Washington, "contemplates the assembling of several brigades of troops in various parts of the country, and giving as many general officers as possible, actual field command."

It has been forcibly pointed out in various criticisms of our disjointed military management that no general officer of the army has ever had actual command of any considerable number of men in field practice; that none of the field officers either, in maneuvering under a general plan to a common object, when co-ordination of effort is expected, has ever had practice in the field; that is, neither the large unit nor the separate organizations has ever worked out any military movement in mutual effort and practice.

At first the mobilization of a division of troops on the Mexican frontier was acclaimed as an answer to those criticisms, and a complete refutation of the damaging allegations made. But that was not the view of the military men and experts. On the contrary, that very concentration developed the exact weaknesses that were anticipated. The co-ordination was still lacking, because it was a new thing; there had been no practice in it. The lack of experience in doing the things that were needed in this concentration, made the doing of them tardy, uncertain, ineffective. When the troops, which had been in the habit of isolation in small commands or fractions of commands, got together in mass, there was inevitable confusion, and prompt scattering of the forces was all that kept the concentration from developing an awkwardness and inefficiency that would have been plain to even an inexperienced eye.

And now that the opinions of the experts have been vindicated by the very means through which it was ex-

pected that they would be refuted, the Government sees the point, and acts promptly. The military forces will be concentrated, not scattered; and training practice on a large scale will be enforced, not neglected. It is a good result, both of the keen and just criticism, and of the movement made apparently to refute that criticism, but which has in fact confirmed its value, both to the country and to the army.

CHINA "PREPARED TO RESIST."

The dispatches tell us that China is "prepared to resist" the aggressions of Russia in Mongolia. It is difficult, however, to see what sort of resistance China could make. The Empire has no army at all. There are provincial military organizations, some of them fairly trained and drilled, but these are not at the disposal of the empire to any marked extent. They are not imperial forces but provincial forces. They are only subject to imperial command by courtesy, and whether this courtesy would be yielded to any appreciable degree to the weak empire is very doubtful.

The Mongolian region does not lend itself readily to military operations. The vast province is thinly settled, there is not much agriculture, and any considerable body of troops would find difficulty in getting subsistence from the country. But Russian troops could do greater marvels in this line than the troops of any other country, being used to foraging and to hard fare.

The resistance spoken of on the part of China would be a resistance chiefly by reason of the natural defenses of the country, joined with the guerrilla warfare which the native tribes could wage. The actual military resistance of the Chinese Empire would amount to very little.

It is possible of course that China has hopes in negotiation and in the frequently expressed determination of the chief powers to prevent the partition of China; but that has been a frail reliance in the past. It has not sufficed to retain Manchuria to China, and it is very doubtful if it would be any more effectual as to Mongolia.

Missouri has recently enacted that it is a penitentiary offense for a chauffeur or the owner of an automobile to run away after a collision without aiding a victim or reporting to the police. It doesn't speak well for human nature that such a law should be needed; but hard experience shows that it is.

Canadian papers opposed to reciprocity speak of papers that favor it as "United States papers printed in Canada." Contrariwise, we suppose that American newspapers that oppose the agreement may be called "Canadian newspapers printed in the United States."

A woman says that in his next incarnation Colonel Roosevelt will be a woman. If so, she will certainly be a chatterbox.



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